

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated May 16, 2007, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 16, 2007. Claims 1-19 have been examined. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5-7, 10, 11, and 13-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Bath* 6,200,068. The Examiner objected to claims 3, 8, 9, 12, and 19 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Election/Restrictions

The Examiner states that newly submitted claims 45-50 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. Applicant has cancelled claims 45-50 without prejudice.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claim 1 as being anticipated by *Bath*. In response, Applicant has amended claim 1.

As amended, claim 1 includes the limitations of claim 19, which the Examiner indicated as allowable subject matter on page 5 of the Office Action. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the 102(b) rejection of claim 1 be removed and allowance of the same. Additionally, since claims 4, 5-7, 10, 11, and 13-17 depend from claim 1, these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 3, 8, 9, 12, and 19 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicant has rewritten claims 3, 8, and 9 as new claims 58-60, respectively. Further, as set forth above, claim 19 has been added to claim 1. Therefore, Applicant believes that claim 1 and new claims 58-60 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the

same. Additionally, since claim 12 depend from claim 1, this claim is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

New Claims

New claims 51-57 and 61-79 have been added to claim aspects of the present invention. Applicant submits that no new subject matter has been added. Claims 51-57 depend from claim 1 and these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Further, Applicant believes that *Bath* fails to disclose a method of intervening in a pipeline comprising the steps of providing a pipeline for transporting fluid flow from an offshore well to a location, diverting the fluid flow to a storage site, wherein diverting the fluid flow to the storage site comprises diverting the fluid flow to a floating storage tank and intervening in the pipeline, as recited in new claims 61-70. Additionally, Applicant believes that *Bath* fails to disclose a method of intervening in a pipeline comprising the steps of providing a pipeline for transporting fluid flow from an offshore well to a location, diverting the fluid flow to a storage site and intervening in the pipeline, wherein the diverting and the intervening are accomplished from the same location and the location is a floating storage tank, as recited in new claims 71-79. Therefore, Applicant believes that new claims 51-57 and 61-79 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the same.

Information Disclosure Statements

Applicant appreciates that the Examiner has reviewed and considered the information disclosure statement filed on May 11, 2004. However, Applicant also notes that the information disclosure statements filed with the USPTO on November 2, 2004, November 23, 2004, January 12, 2005, April 7, 2005, April 12, 2005, and January 26, 2006 appear not to have been reviewed and/or considered. If the Examiner needs further information regarding these information disclosure statements, please contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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